Involvement of media and entertainment industry in consultative process

2949. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION **AND** BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether FICCI and India Inc. have proposed and made strong case for the involvement of media and entertainment industry in consultative process;

(b) whether FICCI has highlighted implications of the proposed Bill on Media Industry and has sought clarification on several points;

(c) whether FICCI has pointed out that media restriction clause in the proposed Bill would call for major corporate restructuring by media companies (foreign and domestic operating in India) with serious financial implications and suggested to make Broadcasting Regulatory Authority of India an autonomous body; and

(d) whether Government have considered their views and suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (d) A meeting was held on 14.8.2006 in New Delhi under the Chairmanship of the Minister of Information and Broadcasting to discuss the draft of the proposed Broadcasting Services Regulation Bill with various industry and media groups. Representatives of FICCI had also attended the meeting and had expressed their views on different aspects of the proposed Bill including the cross media holding issues. This Ministry of.Information and Broadcasting have also invited the comments of the general public and stakeholders on the draft of the proposed Bill which along with a consultation paper has been posted on the website of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (www.mib.nic.in). Therefore at the time of framing of the proposal, the views of all concerned will be taken into consideration.

Advertisements during broadcasting of news

2950. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of the running hours of the TV. channels under the